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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00099 160749Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /113 W
----------020071 160756Z /23
R 160440Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5723
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBMASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSH TEHRAN
USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USUN 590

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0099

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET
SUBJ: SIAD EXTENDS TENTATIVE OLIVE BRANCH

REF: STATE 010990 (NOTAL)

1. PERTINENT QUOOTES FROM PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE'S JANUARY 6
SPEECH AS REPORTED BY SONNA FOLLOW:

A. "WE BELIEVE THAT THE EFFECT OF THE CURRENT TENSION IN THE
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HORN OF AFRICA IS FAR REACHING AND CANNOT BE VIEWED AS CON-
FINED TO THE PEOPLES OF THIS AREA. THEREFORE, IT IS
INCUMBENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SHOULDER RESPONSIBILITY
IN THIS REGARD SQUARELY BY HELPING PUT AN END TO THE
PRESENT HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THE ADDIS ABABA REGIME AND THE
NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS,..."

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B. "THUS THE SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS IS THE EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, WE CALL UPON OUR SISTER AFRICAN STATES TO SHOULDER THIS URGENT RESPONSIBILITY," THE PRESIDENT STRESSED, ADDING THAT THE SDR IS FULLY PREPARED TO WELCOME EFFORTS OF AFRICAN LEADERS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA IN HELPING FIND SOLUTION IN THE CRISIS IF THE ADDIS ABABA REGIME FINDS THE COURAGE TO ACCEPT SUCH ENDEAVOUR ON THE PART OF OUR BROTHERS. THE BASIS FOR THE SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS, IS, OF COURSE, THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES WHICH CLEARLY ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTER OF THE OAU."

C. "THE TRUE SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA LIES FIRST IN THE NON-INTERFERENCE OF FOREIGN FORCES WHOSE ONLY INTEREST IS IN THE EXPANSION OF THE CONFLICT, AND THEN THE COMING TOGETHER OF THOSE WHOM THE PROBLEM TRULY CONCERNS, NAMELY THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF WESTERN SOMALIA, ABO, ERITREA AND THE ADDIS ABABA REGIME SO THAT THEY CAN CONDUCT A GENUINE DIALOGUE,..."

D. "ALTHOUGH IT IS SELF-EVIDENT THAT THE ADDIS REGIME IS CONDUCTING WANTON AGGRESSION AGAINST THE SDR, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME HURLING BASELESS ACCUSATION AT US WHEN THEY COULD NOT PEACEFULLY SOLVE THE DIFFICULTIES CREATED BY THE JUST STRUGGLE OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS,
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NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE READY TO DIRECTLY MEET AND DISCUSS WITH THE ADDIS AUTHORITIES, IF THEY ARE WILLING TO DO SO, ..."

2. SIAD HAS NOT BEEN VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EITHER AN OAU ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS OR DIRECT MEETINGS WITH THE ETHIOPIANS IN THE PAST. THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT A PEACE OPTION AT PRESENT THAN HE WAS WHEN THE PROSPECTS FOR A MILITARY VICTORY IN HARAR APPEARED BRIGHTER. THERE WERE RUMORS IN MOGADISCIO, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT COL. MENGISTU WAS ALSO TO BE IN ANTANARARIVO WHEN SIAD VISITED THERE AT CHRISTMAS. SIAD'S SPECIAL WASHINGTON EMISSARY ASSERTED IN LATE DECEMBER (MOG 77 2210) THAT THE TRIP WAS THE RESULT OF US ADVICE TO TAKE STEPS LOOKING TOWARD PEACE. WHETHER HIS JANUARY 6 PUBLIC STATEMENTS INDICATE A GEN UINE WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO A DIALOGUE OR NOT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY. WE ARE STILL INCLINED TO BELIEVE HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ONE LAST ATTEMPT TO TAKE HARAR. WHATEVER HIS TRUE INTENT, IT SEEMS TO US DESIREABLE THAT HIS OLIVE BRANCH BE SEIZED. IF HE WERE TALKING MERELY FOR THE RECORD, THAT SHOULD QUICKLY BECOME APPARENT.

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IF HE IS SINCERELY PREPARED FOR A DIALOGUE AT THIS TIME,
THAT COULD BE CONFIRMED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780160/aaaabyer.tel
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3770173
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIAD EXTENDS TENTATIVE OLIVE BRANCH
TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET, (MOHAMED SIAD BARRE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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